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NATIONAL COMICS
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BAT MAN
NOV.
NO. 167
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BATMAN
WITH
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-
BOB KANE
THE ENTIRE WORLD KNEW THAT BATMAN AND ROBIN HAD CHALLENGED THE MIGHT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIME CARTEL CALLED HYDRA! THE ENTIRE WORLD KNEW THAT HYDRA HOODLUMS WAITED IN SHADOWY PLACES FOR THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTERS WHO RELENTLESSLY MOVED AGAINST THEM! BUT WHAT THE WORLD DID NOT KNOW WAS THAT WHILE BATTLING HYDRA, THE DYNAMIC DUO WAS SECRETLY THOUSANDS OF MILES AWAY ON ANOTHER MISSION--A MISSION SO VITAL THAT IF THEY FAILED, IT COULD MEAN...
THAT T-GUNNER--ABOUT TO FIRE AT ROBIN!
ZERO HOUR FOR EARTH!

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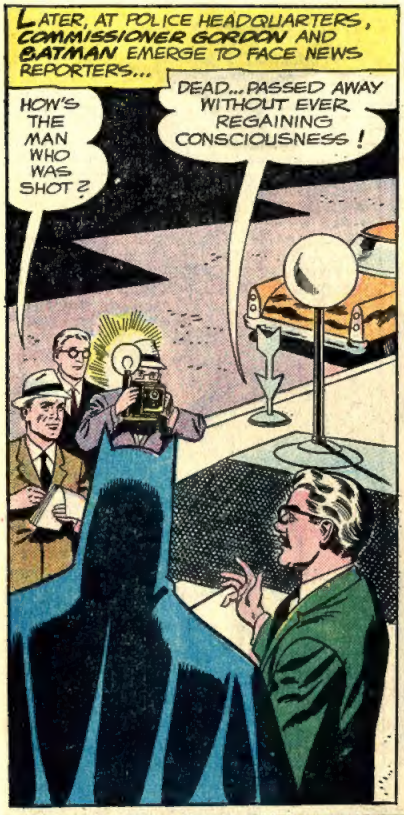
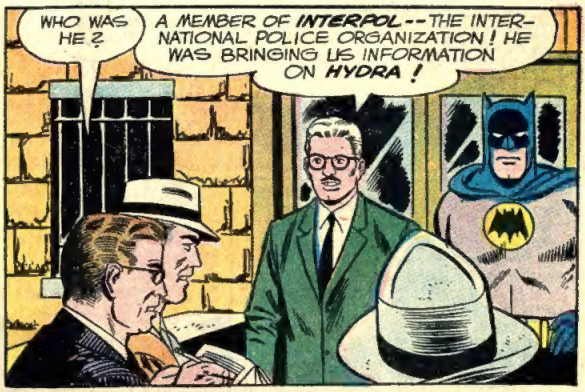
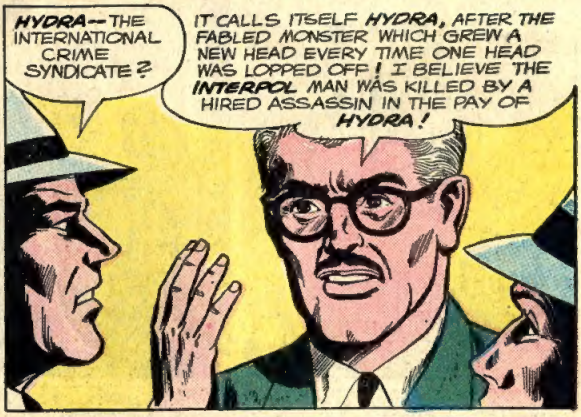
AT THE GOTHAM CITY AIRPORT, TWO CAPED FIGURES WATCH PASSENGERS ALIGHTING FROM A EUROPEAN PLANE...
THERE HE IS, ROBIN-- THE MAN WE WERE SENT TO CONTACT!
THE NEXT MOMENT, WITHOUT WARNING, THEIR MAN BREAKS INTO A RUN...
HE SAW SOMETHING, BATMAN-- SOMETHING THAT'S PANICKED HIM!
AT THAT INSTANT, A GUN IS LEVELLED AT THE RUNNING MAN...
BAM!
BAM!
RUNNING AT TOP SPEED, BATMAN CATCHES THE SLUMPING MAN IN HIS ARMS...
STAY WITH HIM, BATMAN! I'LL GO AFTER THE GUNMAN!
INTENT ON ESCAPE, THE GUNMAN IS UNAWARE THAT HE HAS BLUNDERED RIGHT INTO A PLANE STARTING TO TAKE OFF...
NOW TO GET TO MY MOTORCYCLE STASHED NEAR THE HANGAR-- AND BE AWAY BEFORE ANYBODY CAN STOP ME!
LOOK OUT! THE PLANE'S WHEELS--!
TOO LATE! WE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO QUESTION HIM NOW... HIS SECRETS HAVE DIED WITH HIM!
THUD!


LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, COMMISSIONER GORDON AND BATMAN EMERGE TO FACE NEWS REPORTERS...
HOW'S THE MAN WHO WAS SHOT?
DEAD...PASSED AWAY WITHOUT EVER REGAINING CONSCIOUSNESS!


WHO WAS HE?
A MEMBER OF INTERPOL--THE INTERNATIONAL POLICE ORGANIZATION! HE WAS BRINGING US INFORMATION ON HYDRA!


HYDRA--THE INTERNATIONAL CRIME SYNDICATE?
IT CALLS ITSELF HYDRA, AFTER THE FABLED MONSTER WHICH GREW A NEW HEAD EVERY TIME ONE HEAD WAS LOPPED OFF! I BELIEVE THE INTERPOL MAN WAS KILLED BY A HIRED ASSASSIN IN THE PAY OF HYDRA!

ACCORDING TO THE LEGENDS, HERCULES FINALLY DESTROYED THE HYDRA! I INTEND TO BECOME A MODERN-DAY HERCULES--AND PUT AN END TO THE HYDRA OF CRIME!

HOURS LATER, AS NEWSPAPERS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD HEADLINE BATMAN'S MISSION, IT BRINGS A SMUG SMILE TO A CUNNING FACE...
SO--BATMAN IS FLYING TO EUROPE TO CONCENTRATE ON HYDRA, eh? THEN BATMAN DOESN'T KNOW THE TRUE REASON THE INTERPOL AGENT WAS KILLED IN GOTHAM CITY!

BATMAN GUESSED WRONG! HA! NOW THAT I DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT HIM ANYMORE, I CAN PROCEED WITH MY PLAN...

LATER, THE BATPLANE JETS ACROSS THE ATLANTIC...

OUR FIRST STOP-- HOLLAND!

SOON, AFTER SECRETLY LANDING AND HIDING THE BATPLANE, THE CRIME-FIGHTERS CONSULT INTERPOL'S HOLLAND CHIEF...

EVERY INTERPOL OFFICE HAS BEEN ALERTED TO COOPERATE WITH YOU! AS A STARTER, HERE'S A CARD WE FOUND ON A MAN WE SUSPECT IS A MEMBER OF THE LOCAL HYDRA GANG THAT WAS INVOLVED IN DIAMOND ROBBERIES...

HMM! THE X MIGHT MARK THE SPOT WHERE THE GANG INTENDS TO MEET! BUT THE REFERENCE TO GENERAL SHERMAN IS A TOUGH ONE TO FIGURE OUT...

GENERAL SHERMAN SLEPT HERE X

SHORTLY, AS THEY LOOK OVER THE PICTURESQUE LANDSCAPE...

BATMAN-- SEE HOW THE WINDMILL BLADES FORM AN X! DO YOU SUPPOSE...

MANY HOLLANDERS GIVE NAMES TO THEIR WINDMILLS! COULD BE THAT "GENERAL SHERMAN SLEPT HERE" IS A CODE NAME FOR THE GANG'S WINDMILL HIDE-OUT!

BUT NO DUTCH WINDMILL WOULD BE NAMED AFTER AN AMERICAN CIVIL WAR GENERAL!

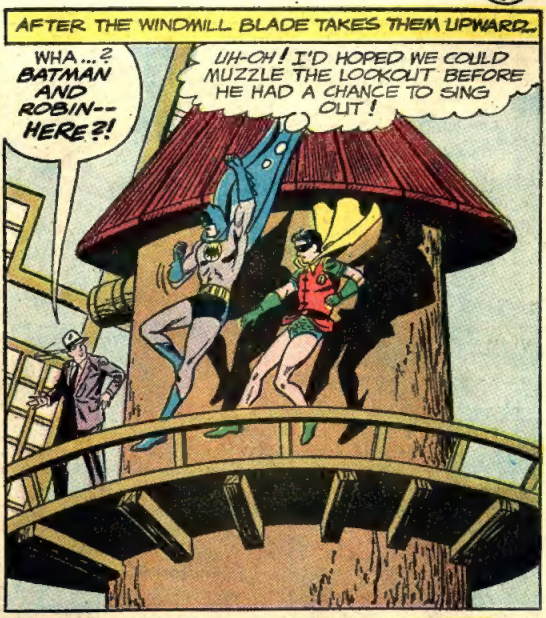
THAT'S SO--BUT THERE'S ANOTHER "GENERAL SHERMAN"-- A WORLD-FAMOUS SEQUOIA TREE!* IT'S A REDWOOD TREE, ROBIN--SO LET'S LOOK FOR A WINDMILL NAMED THE REDWOOD MILL!

SOON, AFTER CHECKING ON THE NAMES OF LOCAL WINDMILLS...

THIS IS IT! UH-OH! A LOOKOUT ON THE BALCONY! WE'LL HAVE TO MAKE SURE HE DOESN'T SPOT US!

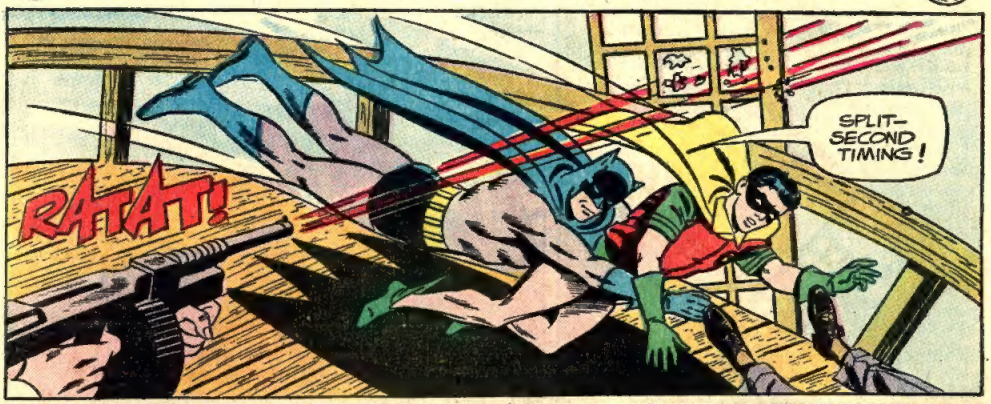
*EDITOR'S NOTE: THE "GENERAL SHERMAN" IN SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK, CALIFORNIA, HAS A HEIGHT OF 272.4 FEET AND A DIAMETER OF 36.5 FEET--MAKING IT THE MOST MASSIVE LIVING THING ON EARTH!

DARTING FORWARD, THE MANTLED MAN-HUNTERS LEAP AT A SWEEPING WIND-MILL BLADE, AND CLIMB UP THE CROSS-HATCHING OF WOOD ON THE REVERSE SIDE...

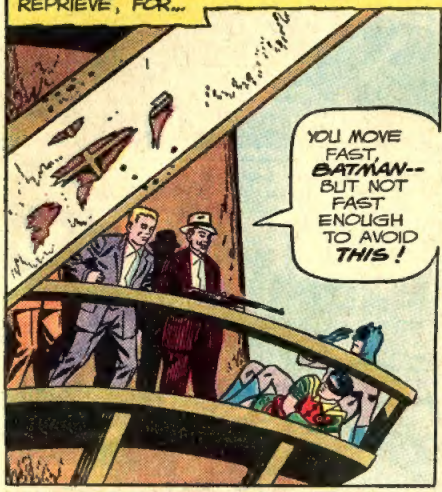

AFTER THE WINDMILL BLADE TAKES THEM UPWARD...
WHA...? BATMAN AND ROBIN-- HERE?!
UH-OH! I'D HOPED WE COULD MUZZLE THE LOOKOUT BEFORE HE HAD A CHANCE TO SING OUT!

BUT EVEN AS BATMAN KAYOS THE SENTRY...
REINFORCEMENTS!

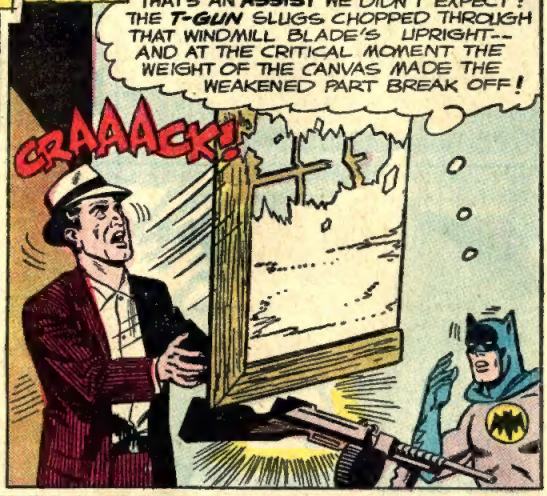
AS THE BOY WONDER LASHES OUT AT THE FIRST ATTACKER, HE IS UNAWARE OF...
THAT T-GUNNER-- ABOUT TO FIRE AT ROBIN...



BUT THE ACT OF SAVING ROBIN'S LIFE GIVES THE MANHUNTERS ONLY A MOMENTARY REPRIEVE, FOR...

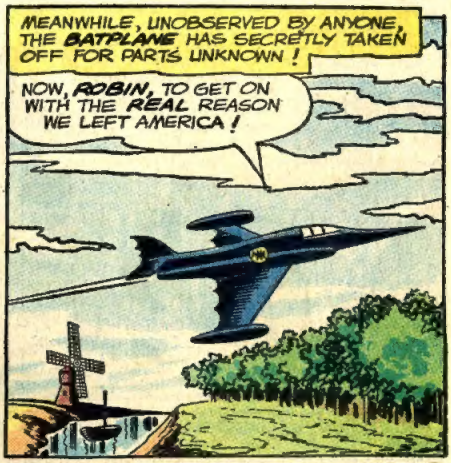


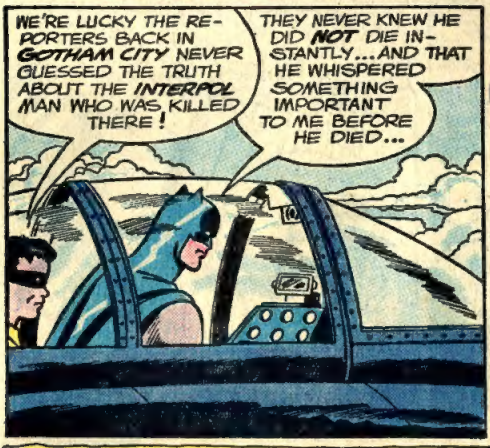
SUDDENLY, AS THE WINDMILL BLADE SWEEPS UPWARD...

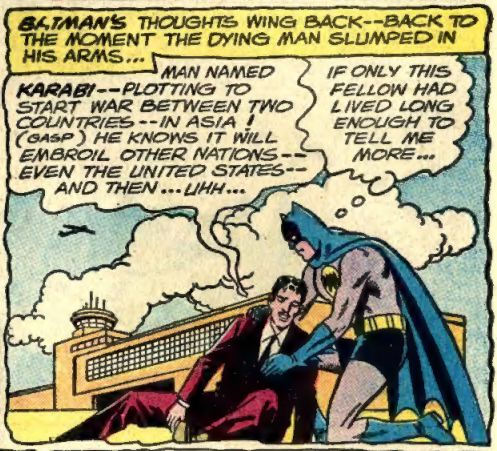

THAT'S AN ASSIST WE DIDN'T EXPECT! THE T-GUN SLUGS CHOPPED THROUGH THAT WINDMILL BLADE'S UPRIGHT-- AND AT THE CRITICAL MOMENT THE WEIGHT OF THE CANVAS MADE THE WEAKENED PART BREAK OFF!
CRAAACK!

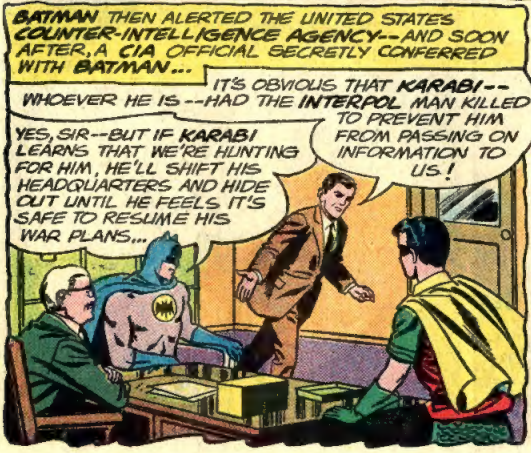
TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THEIR BREAK, BATMAN AND ROBIN STRIKE LIKE TWIN THUNDERBOLTS...

WHAT THEY FIND MAKES HEADLINES IN AFTERNOON NEWSPAPERS...
"BATMAN CAPTURES HYDRA GANG USING A WINDMILL AS CACHE FOR STOLEN DIAMONDS!"
WELL--NOW THAT BATMAN HAS LOPPED OFF ONE HYDRA HEAD, HE'LL BE AFTER THE OTHERS IN EUROPE!


MEANWHILE, UNOBSERVED BY ANYONE, THE BATPLANE HAS SECRETLY TAKEN OFF FOR PARTS UNKNOWN!
NOW, ROBIN, TO GET ON WITH THE REAL REASON WE LEFT AMERICA!

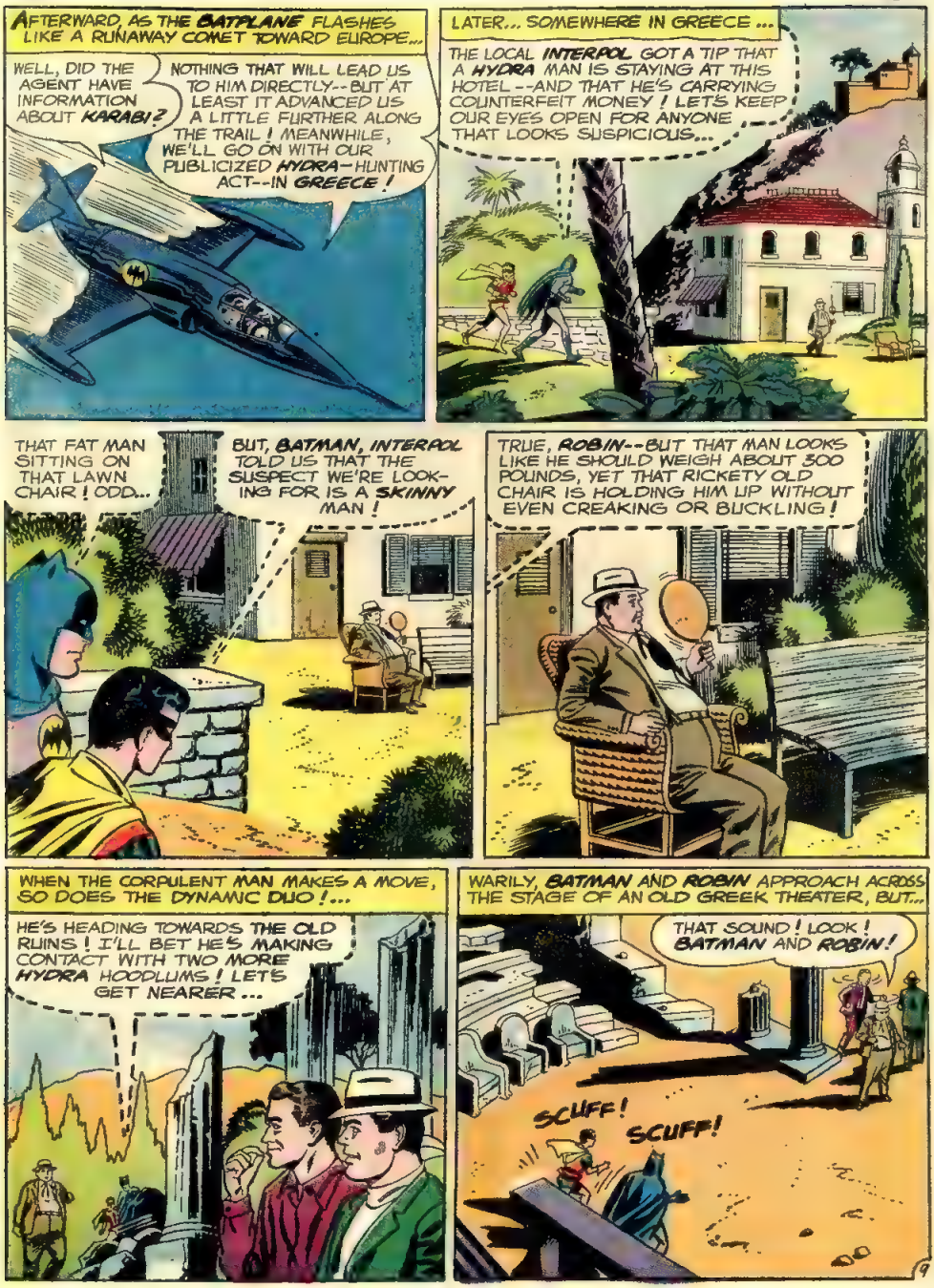

WE'RE LUCKY THE REPORTERS BACK IN GOTHAM CITY NEVER GUESSED THE TRUTH ABOUT THE INTERPOL MAN WHO WAS KILLED THERE!
THEY NEVER KNEW HE DID NOT DIE INSTANTLY...AND THAT HE WHISPERED SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO ME BEFORE HE DIED...


BATMAN'S THOUGHTS WING BACK--BACK TO THE MOMENT THE DYING MAN SLUMPED IN HIS ARMS...
MAN NAMED KARABI--PLOTTING TO START WAR BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES--IN ASIA! (GASP) HE KNOWS IT WILL EMBROIL OTHER NATIONS--EVEN THE UNITED STATES--AND THEN...UHH...
IF ONLY THIS FELLOW HAD LIVED LONG ENOUGH TO TELL ME MORE...


BATMAN THEN ALERTED THE UNITED STATES COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE AGENCY--AND SOON AFTER, A CIA OFFICIAL SECRETLY CONFERRED WITH BATMAN...
IT'S OBVIOUS THAT KARABI--WHOEVER HE IS--HAD THE INTERPOL MAN KILLED TO PREVENT HIM FROM PASSING ON INFORMATION TO US!
YES, SIR--BUT IF KARABI LEARNS THAT WE'RE HUNTING FOR HIM, HE'LL SHIFT HIS HEADQUARTERS AND HIDE OUT UNTIL HE FEELS IT'S SAFE TO RESUME HIS WAR PLANS...

OUR ONLY CHANCE TO TAKE KARABI BY SURPRISE IS TO MAKE HIM BELIEVE WE'RE NOT WISE TO HIM!
I AGREE! UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, COMMISSIONER GORDON WILL HAVE TO GIVE A FAKE STORY TO NEWSPAPER REPORTERS UNTIL THIS EMERGENCY IS OVER!

HYDRA HAS BEEN ACTIVE LATELY-- WHY NOT PRETEND TO CRACK DOWN ON IT?
GOOD IDEA! THE WORLD WILL BE WATCHING BATMAN FIGHT HYDRA -- WHILE SECRETLY HE'LL BE SEARCHING FOR KARABI!
ALL THIS BATMAN REMEMBERS AS THE BAT-PLANE SECRETLY STREAKS TOWARD ASIA...
THANKS TO THE BATPLANE'S JETS, WE'LL BE IN ASIA SHORTLY! BECAUSE OF THE DIFFERENT TIME ZONES, WHEN IT'S AFTERNOON IN HOLLAND, IT'S NIGHT IN ASIA!
RIGHT! AND IT'S TIME YOU GOT OUT OF THAT BATMAN UNI-FORM AND INTO YOUR DISGUISE!
SHORTLY, IN SINGAPORE, THE DISGUISED BATMAN ENTERS A NIGHT CLUB...
THAT DANCER IS ALSO AN INTERPOL AGENT! ONCE I IDENTIFY MYSELF WITH THE SIGNAL AGREED UPON, SHE'LL SECRETLY PASS ON ANY INFORMATION SHE HAS!
AS HE IS SEATED AT A TABLE...
AH, YES--THE FAMOUS SING-APORE PELICAN MENU...
THAT MAN--FITTING A TINTED MONOCLE TO HIS RIGHT EYE! IT IS THE SIGNAL! THAT MAN IS BATMAN!
TO OTHERS IT LOOKS AS IF THE POSITIONING OF HER ARMS IS PART OF THE TEMPLE DANCE..
...BUT TO ME HER ARMS ARE SIGNALING INFORMATION TO ME IN SEMAPHORE!


AFTERWARD, AS THE BATPLANE FLASHES LIKE A RUNAWAY COMET TOWARD EUROPE...
WELL, DID THE AGENT HAVE INFORMATION ABOUT KARABI?
NOTHING THAT WILL LEAD US TO HIM DIRECTLY--BUT AT LEAST IT ADVANCED US A LITTLE FURTHER ALONG THE TRAIL! MEANWHILE, WE'LL GO ON WITH OUR PUBLICIZED HYDRA-HUNTING ACT--IN GREECE!
LATER... SOMEWHERE IN GREECE...
THE LOCAL INTERPOL GOT A TIP THAT A HYDRA MAN IS STAYING AT THIS HOTEL--AND THAT HE'S CARRYING COUNTERFEIT MONEY! LET'S KEEP OUR EYES OPEN FOR ANYONE THAT LOOKS SUSPICIOUS...
THAT FAT MAN SITTING ON THAT LAWN CHAIR! ODD...
BUT, BATMAN, INTERPOL TOLD US THAT THE SUSPECT WE'RE LOOKING FOR IS A SKINNY MAN!
TRUE, ROBIN--BUT THAT MAN LOOKS LIKE HE SHOULD WEIGH ABOUT 300 POUNDS, YET THAT RICKETY OLD CHAIR IS HOLDING HIM UP WITHOUT EVEN CREAKING OR BUCKLING!
WHEN THE CORPULENT MAN MAKES A MOVE, SO DOES THE DYNAMIC DUO!...
HE'S HEADING TOWARDS THE OLD RUINS! I'LL BET HE'S MAKING CONTACT WITH TWO MORE HYDRA HOODLUMS! LET'S GET NEARER...
WARILY, BATMAN AND ROBIN APPROACH ACROSS THE STAGE OF AN OLD GREEK THEATER, BUT...
THAT SOUND! LOOK! BATMAN AND ROBIN!
SCUFF!
SCUFF!

B-BUT HOW--? MY FOOT ONLY SCUFFED THE GROUND--YET THEY HEARD IT YARDS AWAY!
THE OLD GREEK THEATERS HAD SUCH WONDERFUL ACOUSTICS THAT THE SLIGHTEST SOUND FROM THE STAGE COULD BE HEARD FROM ANY SEAT!
NO ANCIENT GREEK TRAGEDY WAS GRIMMER THAN THE DRAMA NOW BEING ENACTED ON ITS STAGE ...
LET'S BOW OFF, ROBIN--WE'RE IN NO POSITION TO PUT ON OUR ACT JUST YET!
BAM!
BAM!
BAM!
SWIFTLY, RELENTLESSLY, THE HYDRA GANGSTERS PURSUE THE CAPED FIGURES UNTIL ...
HA! WE'VE GOT BATMAN TRAPPED IN THIS OLD TEMPLE! FIRE AWAY!
STORY CONTINUES ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING!

Tootsie Rolls go on and on after other candy is gone! Chew, chewy, chewy, chew, mmm!
Tootsie Roll
LONG TIME! LONG TIME! CHEWY CHEWY TOOTSIE ROLL LASTS A LONG TIME!

ROCKY and BULLWINKLE
General Mills
Cheerios
ARE CHEERIOS YOUR FAVORITE CEREAL, BULLWINKLE?
TO BE SURE, ROCK!
CHEERIOS N' MILK GIVE US PEOPLE MUSCLE-MAKIN' PROTEIN...
AND LOTS OF GO-GO-GO!
YOU MEAN EVERYONE SHOULD GO WITH THE GOODNESS OF CHEERIOS?
ZOOM!
GENERAL MILLS
YES INDEEDY!
RRRIP!
BUT THEY SHOULD WATCH WHERE THEY'RE GOING!
BIG J CIRCUS

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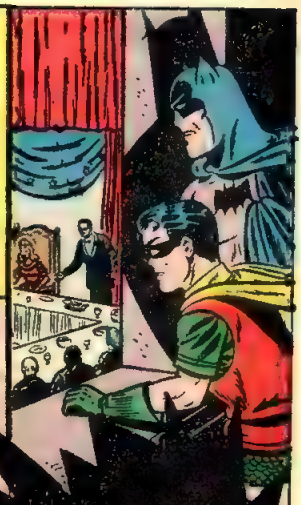

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ZERO HOUR FOR EARTH! CHAPTER 2

TRIUMPHANTLY, THREE GUNS ARE RAISED-- THREE TRIGGERS ARE TUGGED--AND STEEL-JACKETED BULLETS STRIKE THEIR MANTLED TARGET DEAD CENTER!
IS THIS REALLY IT? IS THIS FINALLY BATMAN'S LAST CASE?
BAM! BAM!
BAM! BAM!
HUH? WHAT'S HOLDING BATMAN UP? WHY DOESN'T HE DROP?
IF YOU WANT ME TO DROP-- I'M WILLING TO OBLIGE!

CAUGHT BY SURPRISE, THE WOULD-BE KILLERS ARE UNABLE TO AVOID THE HAMMER-LIKE FISTS OF BATMAN AND ROBIN!
AND WHEN THE BATTLE IS OVER...
HUH? YOU PUT YOUR CAPE AND COWL ON THAT STATUE!
I FIGURED IT'S ONLY FITTING THAT I GOT SOME HELP FROM HERCULES IN LOPPING OFF ANOTHER HYDRA HEAD!
LATER, IN THE GREEK INTERPOL HEADQUARTERS, THE "FAT" MAN IS FORCED TO SHED HIS OUTER GARB...
AMAZING! HE STUFFED COTTON IN HIS CHEEKS--AND WORE PADDED CLOTHES--
--PADDED WITH SHEAVES OF COUNTERFEIT MONEY!
LATER, AS NEWSPAPERS HEADLINE BATMAN'S SECOND VICTORY OVER CRIMEDOM, SOME HEADS OF HYDRA HOLD A SECRET MEETING...
DO WE CALL A HALT TO OUR ACTIVITIES--GO INTO HIDING...?
ABSOLUTELY NOT! SO WHAT IF BATMAN DOES CAPTURE A "HEAD"? ANOTHER "HEAD" IMMEDIATELY TAKES ITS PLACE! AFTER ALL, ISN'T THAT WHY WE'RE CALLED THE HYDRA GANG?
AND ELSEWHERE, KARABI READS OF BATMAN'S LATEST TRIUMPH OVER HYDRA...
HA! MY PLAN FOR WAR IS PROCEEDING BEAUTIFULLY--THANKS TO THE FACT THAT BATMAN STILL BELIEVE THAT HYDRA WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MURDER OF THE INTERPOL AGENT!
MEANWHILE, THE BATPLANE AGAIN SECRETLY ROCKETS TO ASIA, WHERE IN HONG KONG THE DISGUISED BATMAN IS ONCE AGAIN PASSED INFORMATION BY AN INTERPOL AGENT!
THIS TIME THE INFORMATION IS IN BRAILLE PUNCHED IN THE RIM OF THIS HAT I MUST PRETEND TO BUY!

AND SO, AS PRECIOUS TIME PASSES, BATMAN CONTINUES PLAYING HIS DUAL ROLE--HOUNDING HYDRA IN EUROPE...

...AND AMASSING INFORMATION IN ASIA!

LUCKILY THE DARK BATPLANE BLENDS WITH THE DARK NIGHT-SKY! NOBODY BELOW CAN POSSIBLY SPOT US!

UNTIL AT LAST, SOMEWHERE IN SOUTHEASTERN ASIA...

EACH SCRAP OF INFORMATION I'VE COLLECTED, MEANS NOTHING BY ITSELF--BUT TOGETHER THEY ADD UP TO KARABI'S INSANE PLAN FOR WORLD-POWER!

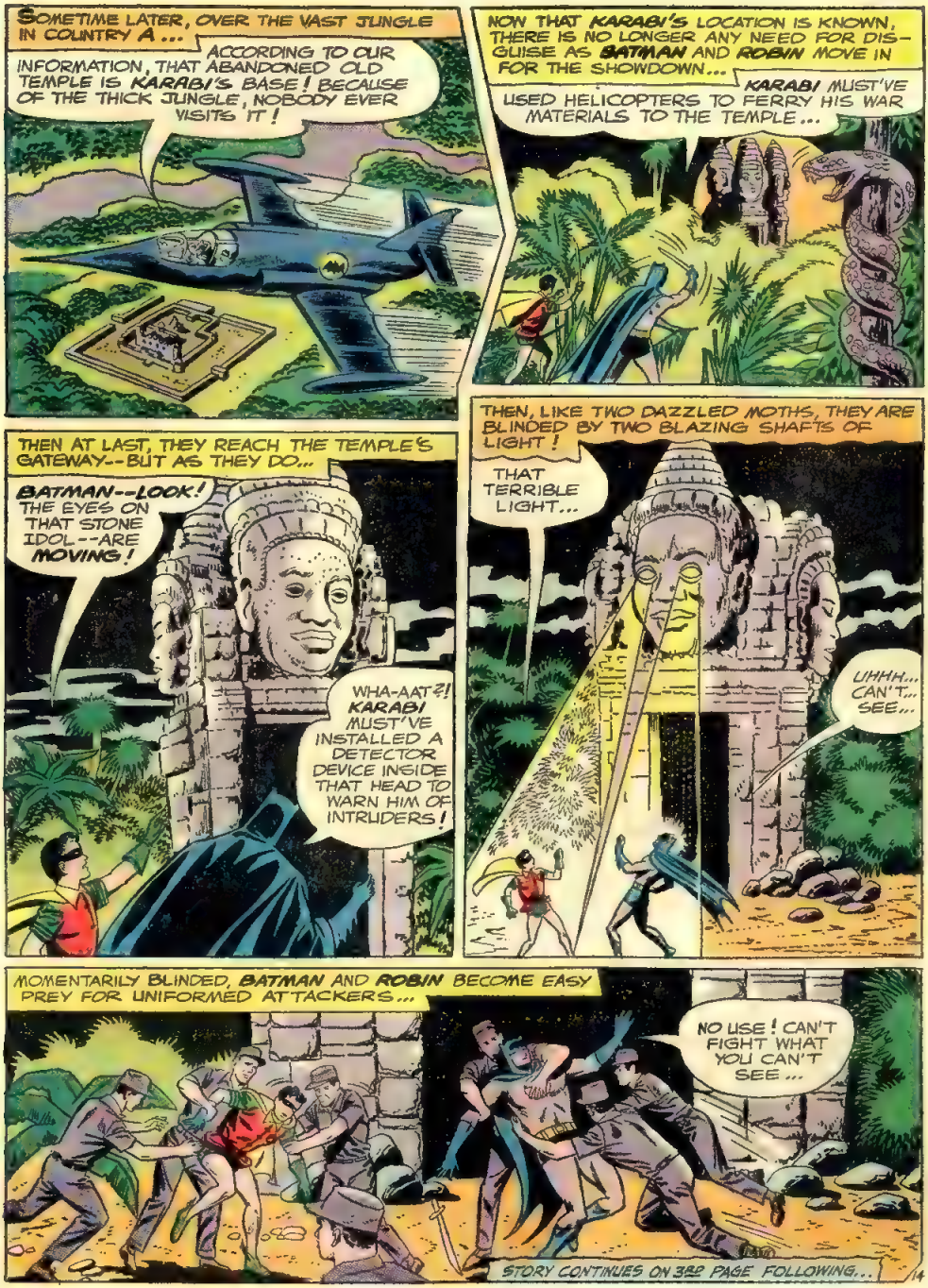
KARABI INTENDS TO SECRETLY FIRE A NUCLEAR MISSILE FROM COUNTRY A* TO COUNTRY B*! HE KNOWS B WILL ACCUSE A OF AGGRESSION--AND WAR WILL BREAK OUT...

*EDITOR'S NOTE: FOR SECURITY REASONS, WE CANNOT REVEAL THE TRUE NAMES OF THE ACTUAL COUNTRIES INVOLVED.

THAT ERUPTION OF WAR WILL ONLY BE THE BEGINNING! LIKE A CHAIN REACTION, IT WILL INEVITABLY SPREAD, INVOLVING MORE COUNTRIES, NATIONS...EVEN THE UNITED STATES!

THEN KARABI INTENDS TO FORM A GROUP OF MALCONTENTS THAT WILL FORM THE NUCLEUS OF A BAND LIKE HITLER'S S.S. ELITE--AND WITH THEM, WILL TRY TO SEIZE AS MUCH POWER AS HE CAN!

GOOD GOSH! WE MUST STOP HIM BEFORE HE TURNS THE ENTIRE WORLD INTO ONE GREAT BATTLE-GROUND!

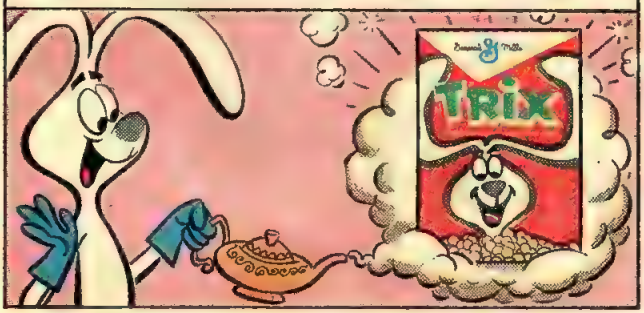

SOMETIME LATER, OVER THE VAST JUNGLE IN COUNTRY A...
ACCORDING TO OUR INFORMATION, THAT ABANDONED OLD TEMPLE IS KARABI'S BASE! BECAUSE OF THE THICK JUNGLE, NOBODY EVER VISITS IT!
NOW THAT KARABI'S LOCATION IS KNOWN, THERE IS NO LONGER ANY NEED FOR DISGUISE AS BATMAN AND ROBIN MOVE IN FOR THE SHOWDOWN...
KARABI MUST'VE USED HELICOPTERS TO FERRY HIS WAR MATERIALS TO THE TEMPLE...
THEN AT LAST, THEY REACH THE TEMPLE'S GATEWAY--BUT AS THEY DO...
BATMAN--LOOK! THE EYES ON THAT STONE IDOL--ARE MOVING!
WHA-AAT?! KARABI MUST'VE INSTALLED A DETECTOR DEVICE INSIDE THAT HEAD TO WARN HIM OF INTRUDERS!
THEN, LIKE TWO DAZZLED MOTHS, THEY ARE BLINDED BY TWO BLAZING SHAFTS OF LIGHT!
THAT TERRIBLE LIGHT...
UHHH... CAN'T... SEE...
MOMENTARILY BLINDED, BATMAN AND ROBIN BECOME EASY PREY FOR UNIFORMED ATTACKERS...
NO USE! CAN'T FIGHT WHAT YOU CAN'T SEE...
STORY CONTINUES ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING...

HOW'S TRIX?

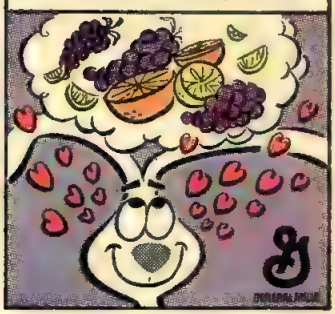
WORTH WISHING FOR...

TRIX ...THE CORN CEREAL...

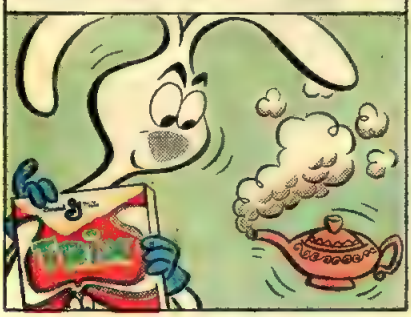
...WITH THE TANGY TASTE OF NATURAL FRUIT!

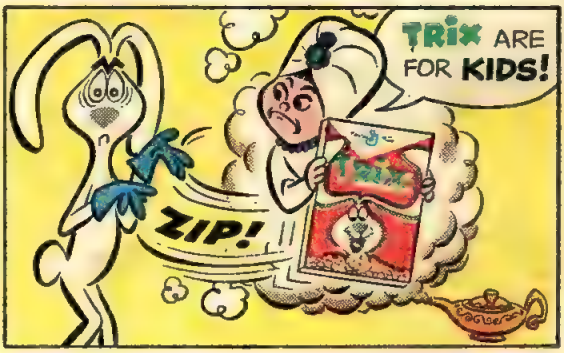


FRUIT COLORS, TOO!



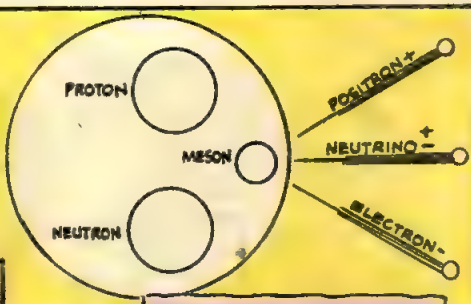
AND AS WE ALL KNOW...





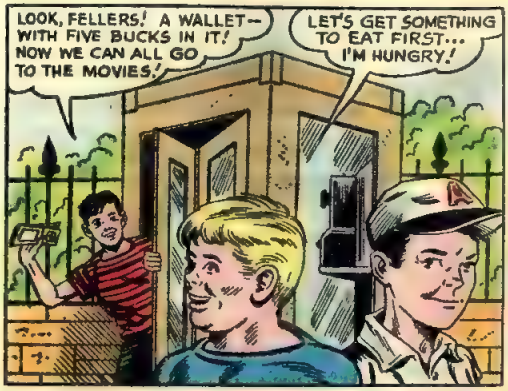
SCIENTI-FACT

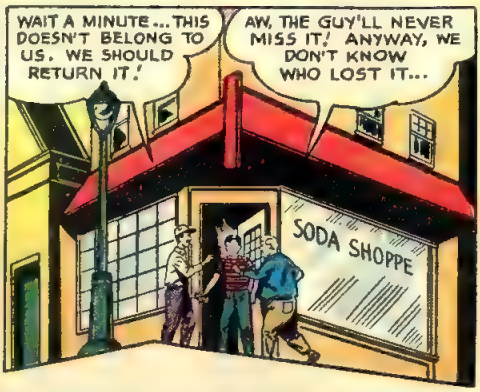
IF AN ATOM COULD BE ENLARGED TO THE SIZE OF A FOOTBALL STADIUM, ITS COMPONENT PARTS WOULD EQUAL THE SIZE OF TOY BALLOONS...



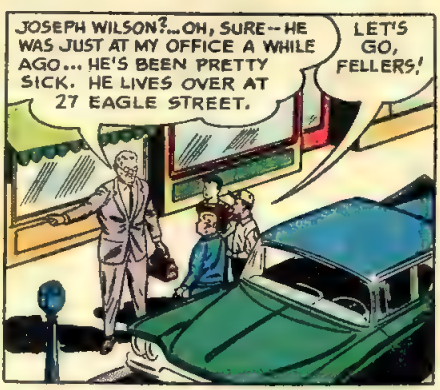
COMPONENT PARTS OF THE NUCLEUS OF AN ATOM

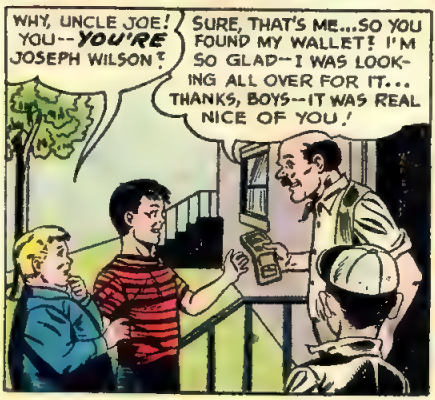
HONESTY *IS* THE BEST POLICY!

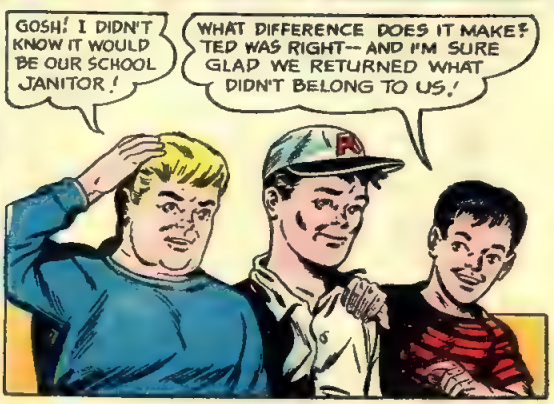



WAIT A MINUTE... THIS DOESN'T BELONG TO US. WE SHOULD RETURN IT!
AW, THE GUY'LL NEVER MISS IT! ANYWAY, WE DON'T KNOW WHO LOST IT...
SODA SHOPPE

THERE'S NO IDENTIFICATION CARD HERE—BUT THERE'S A PRESCRIPTION MADE OUT BY DR. BROWN TO A JOSEPH WILSON...
THERE'S DR. BROWN NOW—HE CAN TELL US WHERE TO FIND MR. WILSON...
AHHH! YOU GUYS ARE DUMB!... FINDERS KEEPERS!

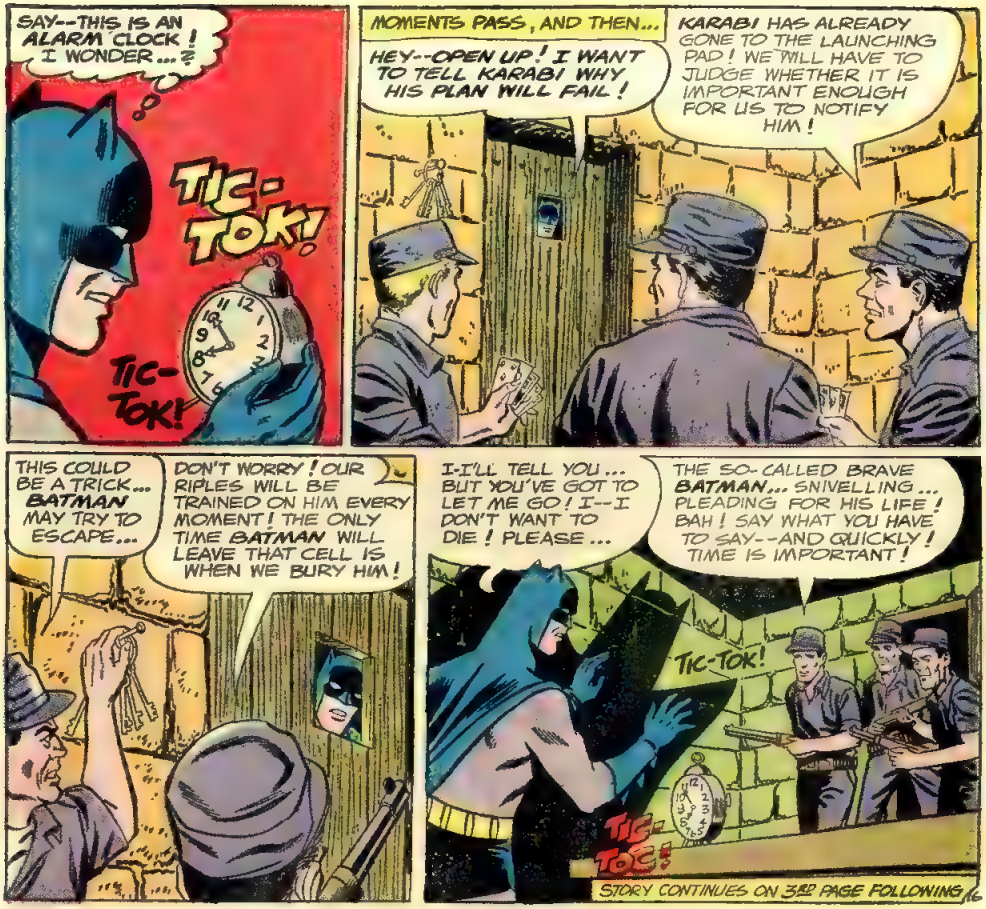

JOSEPH WILSON?...OH, SURE—HE WAS JUST AT MY OFFICE A WHILE AGO... HE'S BEEN PRETTY SICK. HE LIVES OVER AT 27 EAGLE STREET.
LET'S GO, FELLERS!

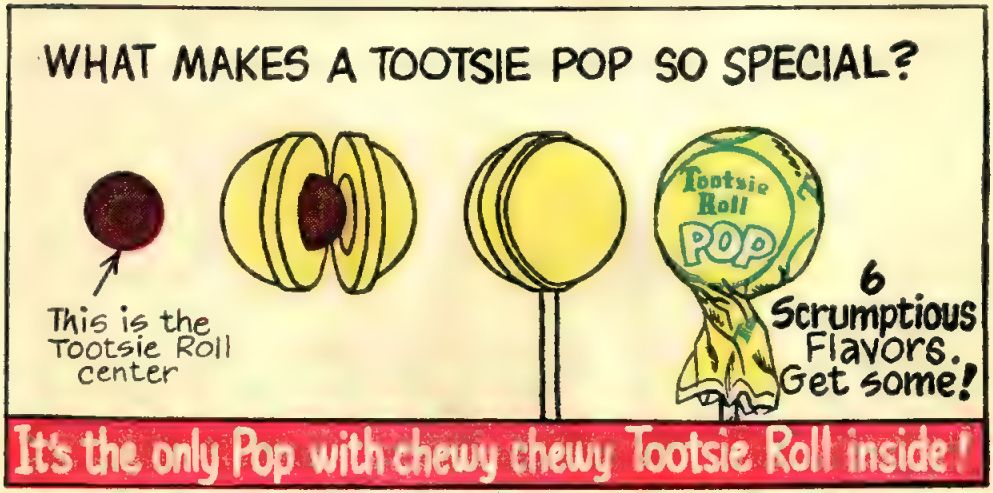

WHY, UNCLE JOE! YOU—YOU'RE JOSEPH WILSON?
SURE, THAT'S ME...SO YOU FOUND MY WALLET! I'M SO GLAD—I WAS LOOKING ALL OVER FOR IT... THANKS, BOYS—IT WAS REAL NICE OF YOU!


GOSH! I DIDN'T KNOW IT WOULD BE OUR SCHOOL JANITOR!
WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE? TED WAS RIGHT—AND I'M SURE GLAD WE RETURNED WHAT DIDN'T BELONG TO US!

PUBLISHED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE ASSEMBLY, COORDINATING ORGANIZATION FOR NATIONAL HEALTH, WELFARE AND RECREATION AGENCIES OF THE U. S.

LATER, BATMAN COMES TO IN FORBIDDING SURROUNDINGS...
WH-WHO ARE YOU ? WHERE'S ROBIN ?
ROBIN IS A PRISONER LIKE YOURSELF... IN THE ADJOINING ROOM ! I THOUGHT IT BEST TO SEPARATE YOU ! IT IS BECAUSE I'VE ALWAYS TAKEN PRECAUTIONS THAT I AM STILL ALIVE !
YOU-- YOU'RE KARABI !
SOON ALL ASIA WILL KNOW THAT NAME-- AND SOMEDAY, THE WORLD !
OBSERVE ! IT IS NOW QUARTER TO EIGHT ! IN EXACTLY FIFTEEN MINUTES I WILL PRESS A BUTTON THAT WILL SEND A DEADLY MISSILE ON ITS WAY !
TIC-TOK-
WATCH THE CLOCK, BATMAN ! -- WATCH THE MINUTES BRING TWO COUNTRIES TO THE BRINK OF WAR-- WHILE YOU ARE HELPLESS TO PREVENT IT !
WATCH THE CLOCK, BATMAN !
TIC-TOK-TIC TOK !
AS THE GREAT DOOR SLAMS SHUT AND A KEY TURNS IN THE LOCK...
WATCH THE CLOCK, BATMAN -- BECAUSE AT THE EXACT MOMENT THE MISSILE REACHES ITS TARGET, YOU AND ROBIN WILL BECOME THE TARGET FOR MY SOLDIERS' RIFLES ! WATCH THE CLOCK, BATMAN ! HA ! HA !
TIC-TOC
TIC-TOC !
TIME'S RUNNING OUT FAST ! IF ONLY THAT CLOCK WOULD STOP TICKING... TICKING...
TICK-TOC
TICK-TOC


SAY--THIS IS AN ALARM CLOCK! I WONDER...?
TIC-TOK!
TIC-TOK!
MOMENTS PASS, AND THEN...
HEY--OPEN UP! I WANT TO TELL KARABI WHY HIS PLAN WILL FAIL!
KARABI HAS ALREADY GONE TO THE LAUNCHING PAD! WE WILL HAVE TO JUDGE WHETHER IT IS IMPORTANT ENOUGH FOR US TO NOTIFY HIM!
THIS COULD BE A TRICK... BATMAN MAY TRY TO ESCAPE...
DON'T WORRY! OUR RIPLES WILL BE TRAINED ON HIM EVERY MOMENT! THE ONLY TIME BATMAN WILL LEAVE THAT CELL IS WHEN WE BURY HIM!
I-I'LL TELL YOU... BUT YOU'VE GOT TO LET ME GO! I--I DON'T WANT TO DIE! PLEASE...
THE SO-CALLED BRAVE BATMAN... SNIVELLING... PLEADING FOR HIS LIFE! BAH! SAY WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY--AND QUICKLY! TIME IS IMPORTANT!
TIC-TOK!
TIC-TOC!
STORY CONTINUES ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING


WHAT MAKES A TOOTSIE POP SO SPECIAL?
This is the Tootsie Roll center
Tootsie Roll POP
6 Scrumptious Flavors. Get some!
It's the only Pop with chewy chewy Tootsie Roll inside!

L.C. LEPRECHAUN
AYE, LITTLE RABBIT—'TIS LUCK TO CATCH A LEPRECHAUN!
BUT NOBODY CAN!
'COURSE IF THEY DID—THEY'D CATCH MY LUCKY CHARMS!
NEW! Lucky Charms
'TIS A CHARMIN' CEREAL—SIMPLY...
HEY!
OH DEER!
CHARMIN'!
LUCKY CHARMS
NEW TOASTED OAT CEREAL WITH
MARSHMALLOW BITS IN LUCKY SHAPES!
'TIS A CHARMIN' CEREAL... SIMPLY CHARMIN'
General Mills

STOP! TREACHEROUS TRAPS!

LOOK! THEY'RE ALL IN THIS PERIL-PACKED 80-PAGE GIANT FLASH

LISTEN! "FLASHY" EXTRAS INCLUDED IN THIS ANNUAL TREAT...

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FLASH'S ROGUES' GALLERY!

80 Pg. GIANT
FLASH
25¢
A CREAM-OF-THE-CROP COLLECTION OF THE SCARLET SPEEDSTER'S MOST TREACHEROUS TRAPS!
CORNERED BY A MAMMOTH MOSQUITO!
IMPRISONED IN A GIANT HOURGLASS!
IMMOBILIZED BY 1,000 POUNDS OF WEIGHT!
MENACED BY BLACK LIGHTNING!
PURSUED BY A PIRATE TORPEDO!
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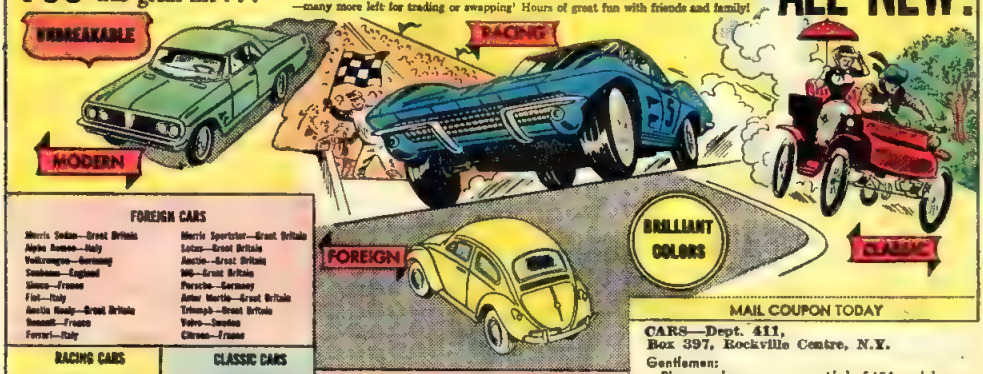
ALL NEW!



FOREIGN CARS

Morris Sedan—Great Britain	Morris Sportster—Great Britain
Alpha Romeo—Italy	Lotus—Great Britain
Volkswagen—Germany	Austin—Great Britain
Sunbeam—England	MG—Great Britain
Simca—France	Porsche—Germany
Fiat—Italy	Aston Martin—Great Britain
Austin Healy—Great Britain	Triumph—Great Britain
Renault—France	Volvo—Sweden
Ferrari—Italy	Citroen—France

RACING CARS

Auburn—U.S.A.
B.R.M.—Great Britain
Corvette—U.S.A.
Mercedes—Germany
Maserati—Italy
Vanwall—Great Britain
Mercedes 300 SL—Germany

CLASSIC CARS

1906 Stanley Steamer
1907 Rolls Royce
1918 Ford
1914 Stutz Bearcat
1930 Ford
1932 Cadillac
1932 Duesenberg
1934 Chrysler
1940 Willys Jeep
1940 Lincoln

MODERN AMERICAN CARS

1963 Plymouth Hardtop
1962 Studebaker Gulcon Hawk
1962 Pontiac Tempest
1962 Ford Falcon
1962 Chevrolet Impala
1961 Studebaker Lark
1961 Nash Rambler Station Wagon
1961 Ford Galaxie
1961 Chrysler Hardtop
1961 Dodge
1961 Mercury Convertible
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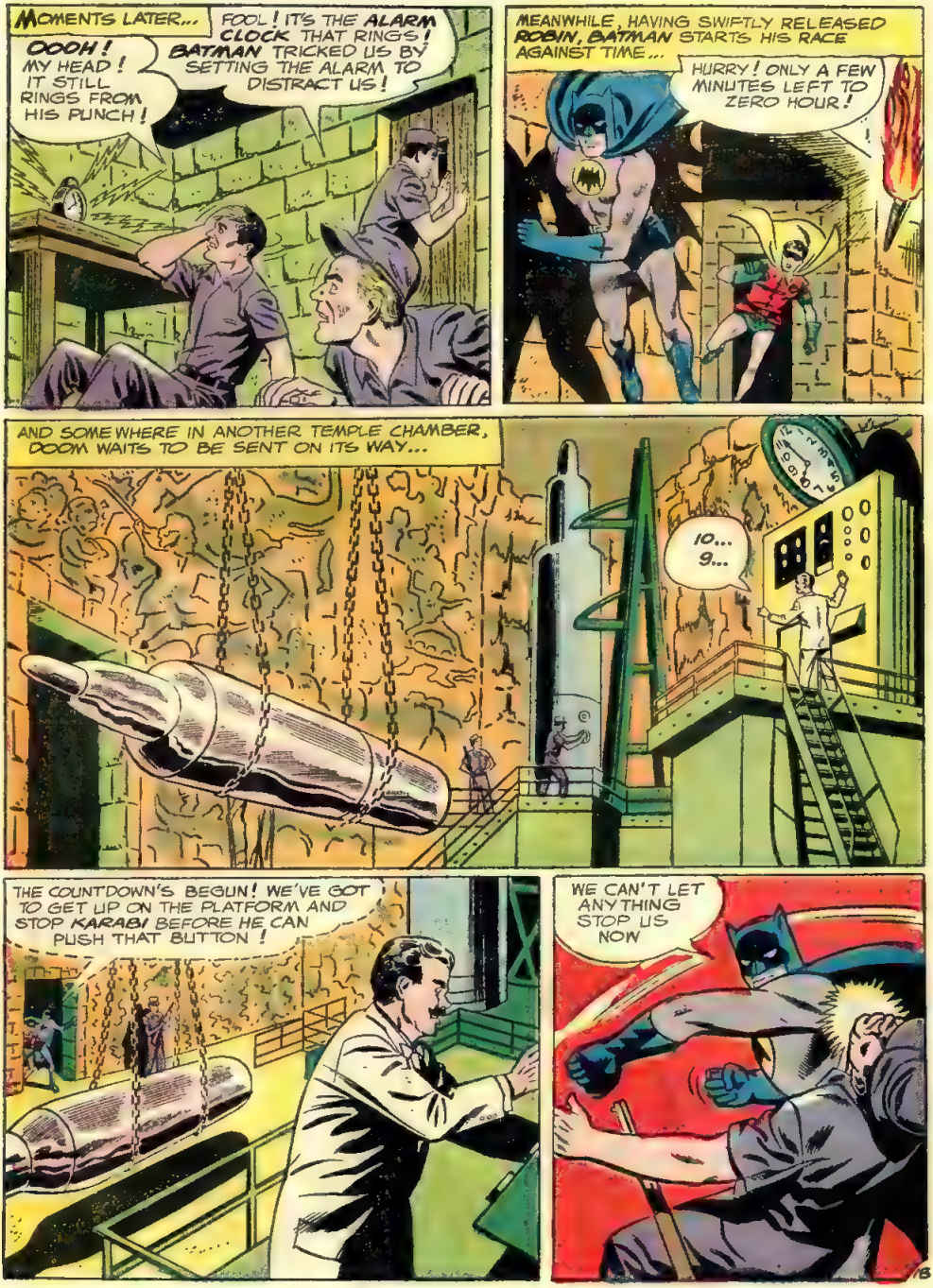
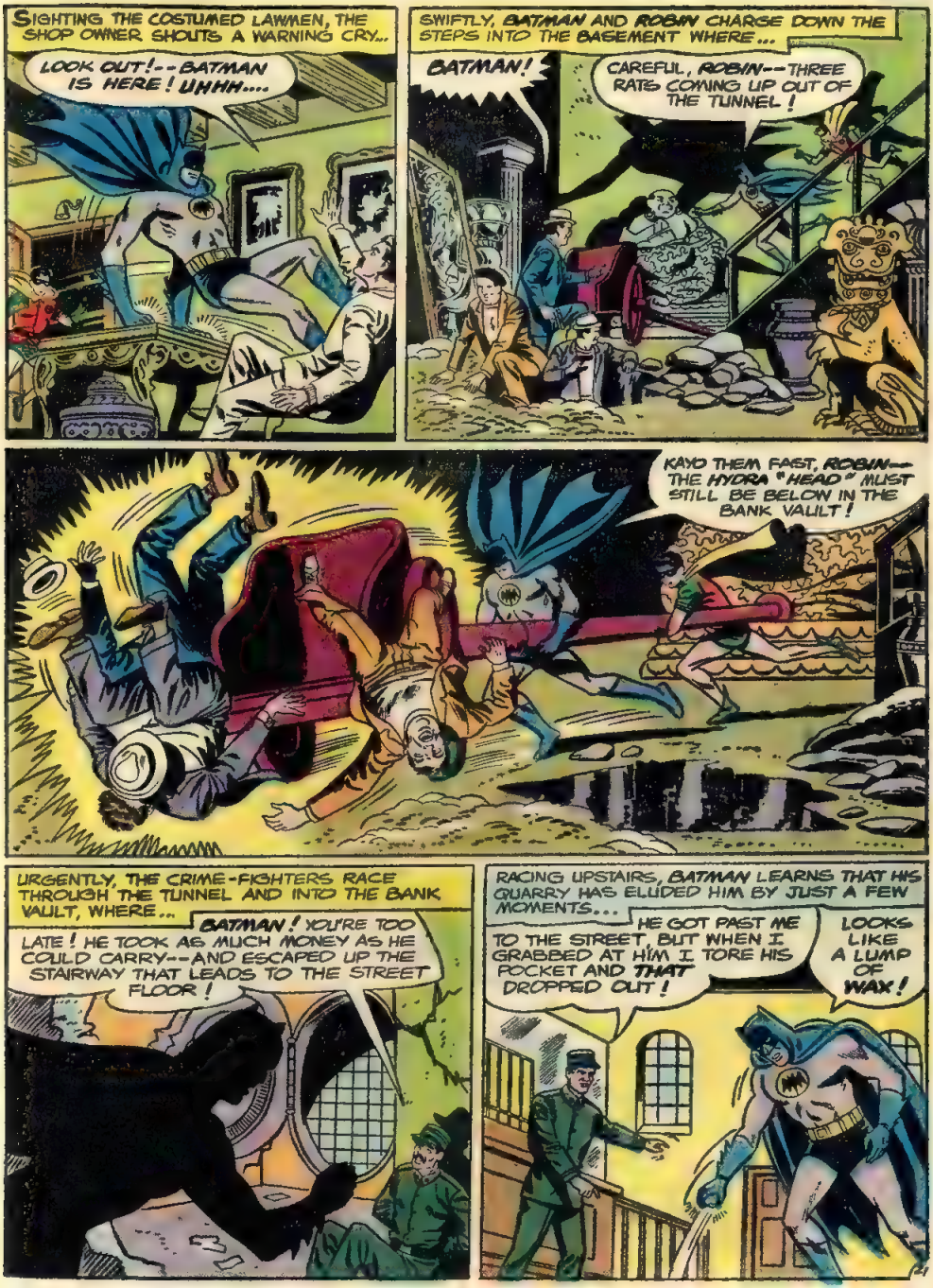
ZERO HOUR FOR EARTH! CHAPTER 3
AS READY RIFLES ARE TRAINED ON HIM, BATMAN SEEMS TO WILT--WHILE A MADMAN THREATENS TO ENVELOP THE WORLD IN WAR!
BUT THEN, UNEXPECTEDLY...
LIKE THE REFEREE SAYS...
BRR--RRING!
...WHEN YOU HEAR THE BELL...
...COME OUT FIGHTING!

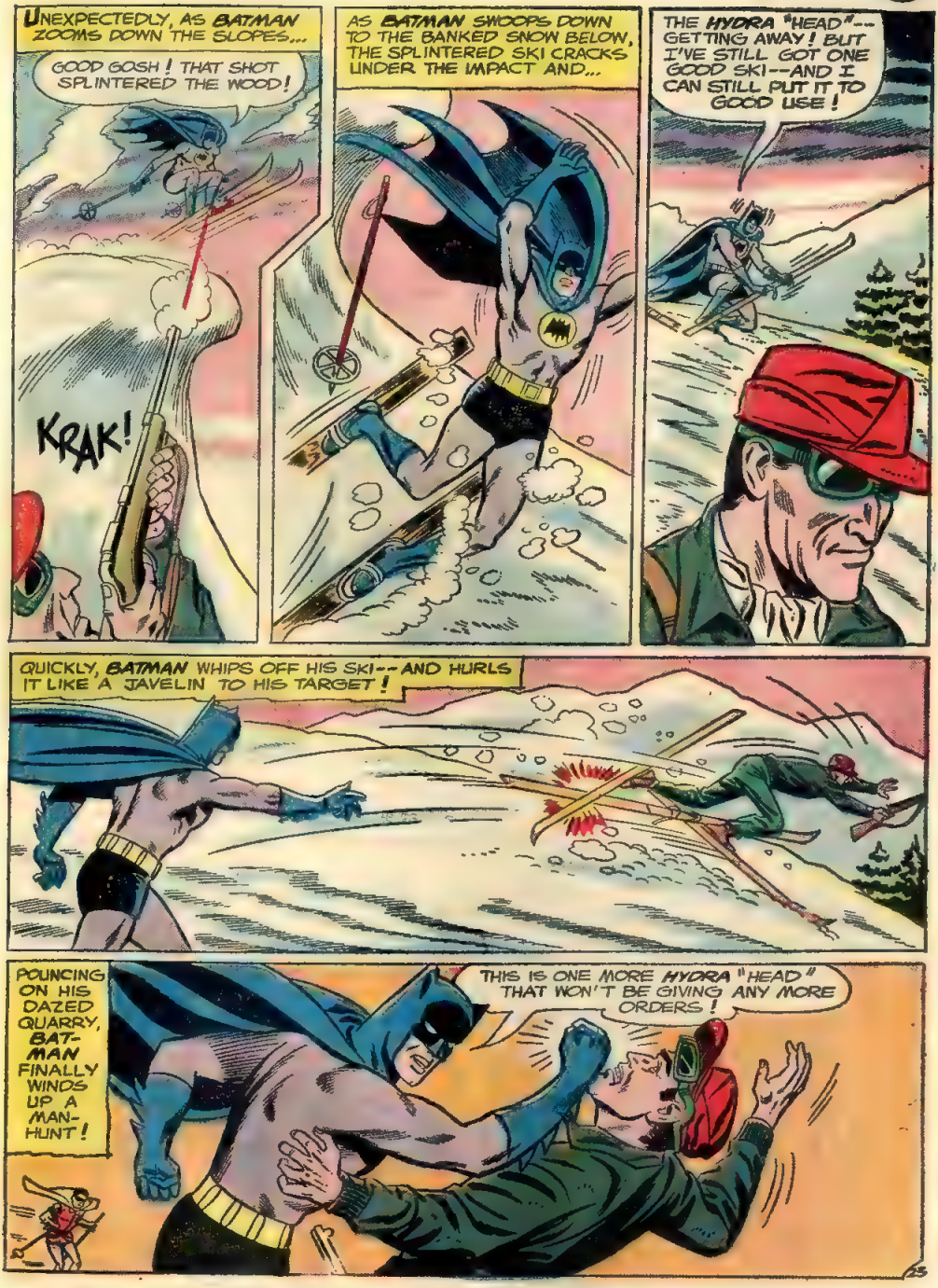

MOMENTS LATER...
OOOH! MY HEAD! IT STILL RINGS FROM HIS PUNCH!
FOOL! IT'S THE ALARM CLOCK THAT RINGS! BATMAN TRICKED US BY SETTING THE ALARM TO DISTRACT US!
MEANWHILE, HAVING SWIFTLY RELEASED ROBIN, BATMAN STARTS HIS RACE AGAINST TIME...
HURRY! ONLY A FEW MINUTES LEFT TO ZERO HOUR!
AND SOMEWHERE IN ANOTHER TEMPLE CHAMBER, DOOM WAITS TO BE SENT ON ITS WAY...
10...
9...
THE COUNTDOWN'S BEGUN! WE'VE GOT TO GET UP ON THE PLATFORM AND STOP KARABI BEFORE HE CAN PUSH THAT BUTTON!
WE CAN'T LET ANYTHING STOP US NOW

THEN, A SWIFT DASH CARRIES THE CRIME-FIGHTERS UP TO THE MISSILE PLATFORM...
2...
1...
BATMAN AND ROBIN-- FREE?!
THEN SWINGING ATOP AN AUXILIARY MISSILE...
THE MISSILE! I CAN STILL SEND IT ON ITS WAY! I CAN STILL BEAT BATMAN!
KARABI'S FINGER JABS AT THE BUTTON--EVEN AS BATMAN LEAPS AT HIS FOE...

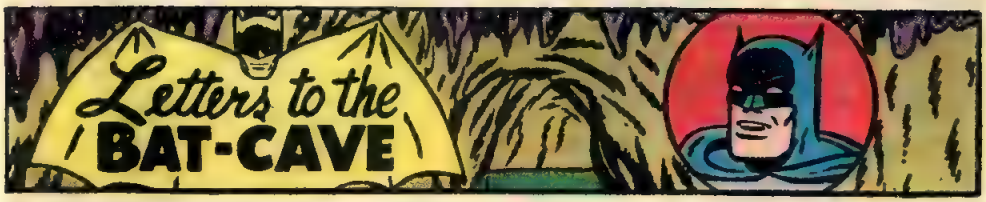
RIGHT ON THE BUTTON! BUT NOT THE ONE ON THE CONTROL PANEL!
LATER, AFTER KARABI AND HIS FOLLOWERS HAVE BEEN IMPRISONED...
THANKS TO YOU, A TERRIBLE WAR HAS BEEN AVERTED! OUR PEOPLE WILL BE ETERNALLY GRATEFUL!
THANK YOU, SIR--AND NOW, IF YOU DON'T MIND, I'LL TAKE KARABI'S PAPERS THAT WE FOUND IN HIS HEADQUARTERS, AND TURN THEM OVER TO THE U.N.!
AFTERWARD, AS BATMAN CHECKS KARABI'S DIARY IN THE BATPLANE...
ACCORDING TO KARABI'S LAST ENTRY, HE HAD INTENDED TO DEPOSIT HIS CAMPAIGN MONEY UNDER AN ASSUMED NAME IN A SWISS BANK--BUT HE CHANGED HIS MIND WHEN AN UNDERWORLD TIPSTER TOLD HIM THAT BANK WOULD BE ROBBED...
...ROBBED BY A TOP HYDRA "HEAD"! KARABI'S DIARY EVEN TELLS HOW THE ROBBERY IS TO BE DONE! GREAT SCOTT! IT'S TO BE ROBBED LATE THIS AFTERNOON!
THEN WE'RE TOO LATE--IT'S ALREADY NIGHTTIME!
IN REPLY, BATMAN SENDS THE BATPLANE ROCKETING SKYWARD...
YOU'RE FORGETTING THE TIME ZONE DIFFERENTIAL, ROBIN--EVEN THOUGH IT'S NIGHT HERE IN ASIA, IT'S STILL DAY IN SWITZERLAND! THE BATPLANE'S JET WILL GET US BACK IN TIME TO INTERCEPT THE HYDRA ROBBERY!
WITHIN HOURS, THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTERS ARE DARTING ACROSS A STREET IN A SWISS CITY...
THE HYDRA GANG IS USING THAT CURIO SHOP AS A COVER--WHILE THEY TUNNEL FROM THE SHOP BASEMENT INTO THE ADJOINING BANK'S UNDERGROUND VAULT!
BANK


SIGHTING THE COSTUMED LAWMEN, THE SHOP OWNER SHOUTS A WARNING CRY...
LOOK OUT!--BATMAN IS HERE! UHHH....
SWIFTLY, BATMAN AND ROBIN CHARGE DOWN THE STEPS INTO THE BASEMENT WHERE...
BATMAN!
CAREFUL, ROBIN--THREE RATS COMING UP OUT OF THE TUNNEL!
KAYO THEM FAST, ROBIN--THE HYDRA "HEAD" MUST STILL BE BELOW IN THE BANK VAULT!
URGENTLY, THE CRIME-FIGHTERS RACE THROUGH THE TUNNEL AND INTO THE BANK VAULT, WHERE...
BATMAN! YOU'RE TOO LATE! HE TOOK AS MUCH MONEY AS HE COULD CARRY--AND ESCAPED UP THE STAIRWAY THAT LEADS TO THE STREET FLOOR!
RACING UPSTAIRS, BATMAN LEARNS THAT HIS QUARRY HAS ELUDED HIM BY JUST A FEW MOMENTS...
HE GOT PAST ME TO THE STREET, BUT WHEN I GRABBED AT HIM I TORE HIS POCKET AND THAT DROPPED OUT!
LOOKS LIKE A LUMP OF WAX!

I'VE SEEN THIS TYPE OF WAX BEFORE-- IT'S A SPECIAL WAX USED ON SKIS!
THAT COULD MEAN THE HYDRA "HEAD" PLANNED TO SKI TO A SAFER LOCALE WITH THE MONEY IN CASE OF TROUBLE!
LATER, SOMEWHERE IN THE SWISS ALPS...
I'M PLAYING A HUNCH, ROBIN! THIS AREA IS A FAVORITE ROUTE FOR PEOPLE WHO WANT TO SMUGGLE THEMSELVES ACROSS THE BORDER BETWEEN GERMANY AND SWITZERLAND! THIS IS WHERE OUR MAN MAY BE!
ANOTHER SKIER! AND LOOK AT THAT BULGING KNAPSACK! I WONDER IF ITS BULGING WITH STOLEN MONEY?
HEY! HE'S UNSLINGING A RIFLE!
NOW I KNOW I WAS RIGHT!
ZIIP!
ZIIP!
YOU STAY PUT, ROBIN--LET'S NOT GIVE HIM ANY EXTRA TARGETS TO SHOOT AT! I'M GOING TO TRY A SHORT-CUT AND HEAD HIM OFF!


UNEXPECTEDLY, AS BATMAN ZOOMS DOWN THE SLOPES...
GOOD GOSH! THAT SHOT SPLINTERED THE WOOD!
KRAK!
AS BATMAN SWOOPS DOWN TO THE BANKED SNOW BELOW, THE SPLINTERED SKI CRACKS UNDER THE IMPACT AND...
THE HYDRA "HEAD"--- GETTING AWAY! BUT I'VE STILL GOT ONE GOOD SKI--AND I CAN STILL PUT IT TO GOOD USE!
QUICKLY, BATMAN WHIPS OFF HIS SKI--- AND HURLS IT LIKE A JAVELIN TO HIS TARGET!
POUNCING ON HIS DAZED QUARRY, BAT-MAN FINALLY WINDS UP A MAN-HUNT!
THIS IS ONE MORE HYDRA "HEAD" THAT WON'T BE GIVING ANY MORE ORDERS!

LATER, THE BATPLANE FLASHES ACROSS THE ATLANTIC--HOMEWARD BOUND!
WELL, BATMAN, EVEN THOUGH YOU COULDN'T POSSIBLY CUT OFF ALL ITS HEADS, YOU CERTAINLY CRIPPLED HYDRA'S ACTIVITIES!
YES, ROBIN--AND MAYBE HYDRA WILL NEVER RECOVER FROM THE BLOWS WE GAVE IT! ONLY TIME WILL TELL!
THEIR JOB DONE, BATMAN AND ROBIN CAN ONCE AGAIN RESUME THEIR OTHER IDENTITIES--THOSE OF BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON...
SAY--ONE NEWS STORY MENTIONS YOU CATCHING KARABI AT 8 P.M. IN ASIA--AND THE SECOND ITEM SAYS YOU CAPTURED A HYDRA HEAD IN THE SWISS ALPS AT 8 P.M.--BOTH ON THE SAME DAY!
WHAT A PARADOX! BECAUSE OF THE TIME ZONES, YOU SEEMINGLY WERE IN TWO PLACES AT THE SAME TIME!
HERE'S THE TOPPER, DICK! IT'S STILL 8 P.M. FOR US IN GOTHAM CITY ON THE SAME DAY! SO, WE CAN ACTUALLY SAY WE WERE IN THREE PLACES AT THE SAME TIME!
BONG! BONG! BONG! BONG! BONG! BONG! BONG!
THE END
I LIKE CHOCOLATE FUDGE BEST!
I LIKE VANILLA FUDGE BEST!
...BUT EVERYONE LIKES TOOTSIE ROLL FUDGE BEST! IT'S CREAMY, SMOOTH, DELICIOUS!
Tootsie Roll Fudge
Get some!



Dear Editor: Drawing on some mysterious inspiration, Bob Kane's artwork in the June *Batman* was the finest he's ever turned out! He seemed to be more relaxed in his efforts; he seemed calm, taking his time and doing a much better job than before. Although Bob's backgrounds still leave much to be desired, the scenes depicting Bruce and Dick together were at their finest; Bruce and Dick seemed real for once, especially Dick engrossed in a common fad—folk singing.

Other gratifying features were the "rounded out chin" of *Batman*, getting away from the square jaw; the new *Batmobile* is much more realistic than the old cumbersome one, though it will take me quite a few issues to get used to it. I just hope that you keep the length and size of the "fins" within reason. It's also good to see the winch in action again; there were too many tunnels in the *Batcave* to suit me. However, I will miss the stairway to the grandfather's clock—somehow I wish you would have kept that.

To get down to the story-wise aspect of the June Batman, "Two-Way Gem Caper" (a John Broome sounding title—right?) while not as good as it could have been, was a notch above all other *Batman* stories. "Batman's Great Face-Saving Feat" sounds again like Broome's work, though again nothing really spectacular. The *Mystery Analysts* is a good series with a lot of potential, but don't use it in every issue (too much of a good thing is just no good). Norman R. Doerner, Box 61A, Rt. 2, Bensenville, Ill.

(Although John Broome's "Mystery of the Menacing Mask" (in the May *Detective Comics*) was the first of the "new" *Batmans* to see print, chronological credit for writing the first two (those in the June *Batman*) must go to France "Eddie" Herron. This issue's novel was authored by Bill Finger—while the previous issue's "Man Who Quit the Human Race" was contributed by Gardner Fox, and "Dilemma of the Detective's Daughter" by Herron. The second in the *Mystery Analysts* series is slated for the forthcoming (December) *Batman*—"How to Solve a Perfect Crime—In Reverse!"—*Editor*)

* * *

Dear Editor: Having just finished reading the June *Batman*, I will tell you what was "wrong" with it:

"Two-Way Gem Caper" was just an average story. There was no power-mad scientist, no green-skinned alien bent on destroying the earth, no fantastic ray-guns or other inventions. This kept the story from being terrible. There was nothing especially wrong with the story; it just wasn't anything spectacular, either. The use of the "Hootenanny Hotshots" livened the story up a bit. However, the best part of the story was when you introduced the new *Batmobile*, the remote-controlled exit and other little things.

"Batman's Great Face-Saving Feat" should have been the cover story. This story shows the real *Batman*; the mysterious hero who is envied by everyone; the super-sleuth who manages to find minute clues to save himself from being exposed, thereby keeping his effectiveness as a crime-fighter. You might think I'm a villain, but I was glad to see *Robin* get that bullet in his leg! After being under fire for more than twenty years, it was about time he got shot! I liked Private Eye Hugh Rankin and the *Mystery Analysts;* let's have more of this group. —Bill Elliott, 9 Linn Lane, Wayland, Mass., 01778

(Curious, isn't it, that "after being under fire for more than twenty years," *Robin* is still a teen-ager! That's a mystery that we doubt even *Batman* can solve!—*Editor*)

* * *

Dear Editor: I've been reading *Batman* for over two and a half years now. I've found *Batman* the most down-to-earth comic figure yet. By this I mean he acts just like a human, not like the other supermembers of the *Justice League*.

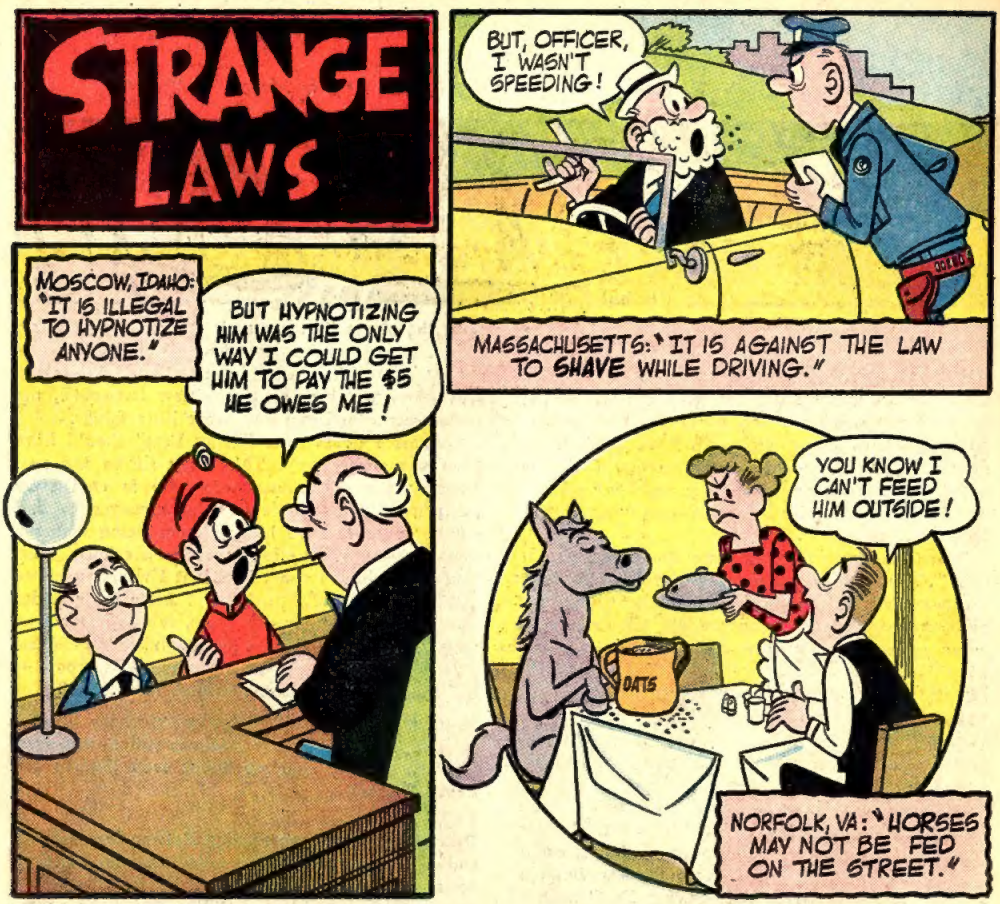
The way I see it, *Batman's* utility belt doesn't serve any special purpose any more. Scientists are finding ways to make things smaller and bigger, and to put big things into small containers. Nor do his *batplane*, *batmobile* and *batarangs* seem up-to-date, considering today's scientific inventions.

One thing I must especially credit *Batman* with is his great sense of honor—and humor, as typified in so many of his stories.

The only "unrealistic" element in connection with Bruce—and *Batman*—is his seeming indifference toward the feminine sex—and that goes for Dick Grayson too! —Cecil Van Booven, RR 3, Slater, Mo.

(We don't pretend to give you a minute-by-minute accounting in the daily lives of our heroes—just the highlights, especially those detailing their crime-busting activities. So to assume they are "indifferent" to members of the opposite sex is "unrealistic" on your part!—*Editor*)

Address communications to LETTER TO THE BAT-CAVE, National Periodical Publications, 575 Lexington Avenue, New York, New York, 10022.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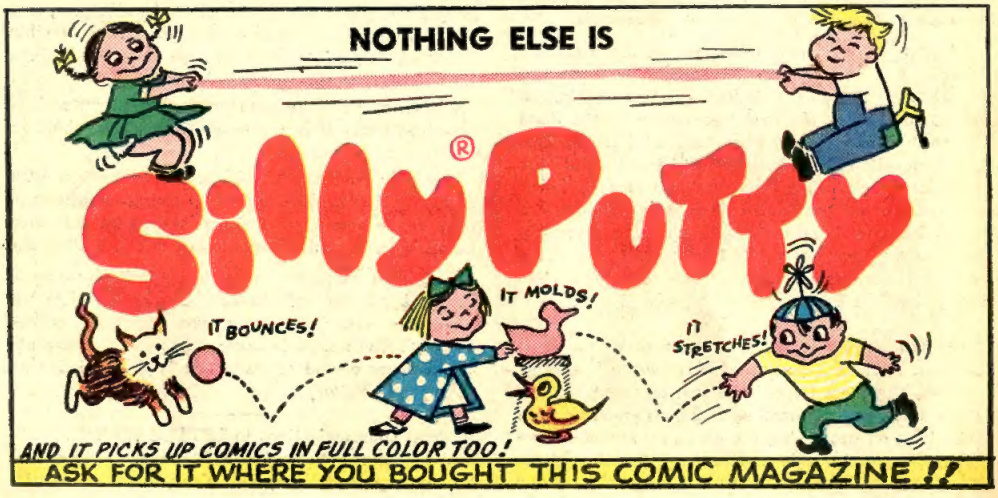
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